GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5550
ANSWERED ON:16.05.2007
TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF STADIUMS
Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Mane Smt. Nivedita

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has temporarily closed down various stadiums particularly the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the sports persons particularly of National Capital Territory region would not be able to prepare for 2010 Commonwealth Games due to non-available of synthetic track;

(d) if so, whether the Government would permit the sports persons to use the warm-up area of Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium for practices till the opening up of such stadiums which have been closed down;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) if not, the steps taken by the Government for making alternative arrangement in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ, YOUTH AFFAIRS & SPORTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF NORTH EASTERN REGION (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) & (b): Activities in various stadia, including the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Delhi, are being scaled down in a phased manner & accommodate the construction schedule for the renovation of these stadia in preparation for the Commonwealth Games 2010.

(c) There will be no dislocation in the preparation of the Indian athletes, as their training camps would be held in the SAI facilities located in Patiala, Bangalore, Kolkata, Bhopal etc.

(d) to (f): Yes, Sir. The warm-up area shall be open to athletes upto the middle of November 2007 around which time the construction activities at the warm-up area in Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium are likely to begin. Once the renovation work starts, practice at warm-up area would not be possible. However, alternative arrangements are being made by deployment of SAI Coaches to other centres in Delhi having good sports infrastructure such as the Department of Sports of the Delhi Government, Delhi University, etc. which are willing to spare their facilities for the training of sportspersons under the SAI System..